

REMARKS

In Response to the Final Office Action, Claims 1 and 11 are amended. Claims 3, 5 and 7 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8-14 remain in the Application. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants amend Claim 11 to separate the “transferring the first organic source vapors” element into two separate elements (“delivering a transfer gas” and “transferring the first organic source vapors by the transfer gas”) to improve clarity. The specification supports the amendment, for example, at page 8, lines 1-5. The amended claim more clearly points out that the term “first organic source vapors” is different from the “transfer gas.” The amended claim also more clearly points out that the transfer gas is supplied from a transfer gas supply source (e.g., element 410 of Figure 2) into the source chamber (e.g., element 300) via a transfer gas transfer line (e.g., element 417), and that the first organic source vapors are transferred by the transfer gas from the source chamber to a process chamber (e.g., element 100) via an organic source vapor transfer line (e.g., element 350).

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection of Claims 11-14 is respectfully requested.

II. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

A. Claims 1, 4, 6, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,277,201 issued to Nishikawa (“Nishikawa”) taken in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,789,789 issued to Randive (“Randive”), and/or Japanese Patent No. 2001-011634 issued to Ono (“Ono”) and optionally taken in further view of U.S. Patent No. 3,888,649 issued to Simhan (“Simhan”), U.S. Publication 2003/0054099 of Jurgensen (“Jurgensen”) and/or U.S. Patent No. 5,536,323 to Kirlin (“Kirlin”).

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the relied upon references must teach or suggest every limitation of the claim such that the invention as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one skilled in the art.

Applicants amend independent Claim 1 to more clearly point out the structure of the transfer gas distributor and the transfer gas inlet in relation to other parts of the system. The amendment is supported by, for example, FIG. 2 and the specification at page 9, line 18 to page 10, line 5.

Specifically, the Examiner cites Randive and Ono (page 4 of the Final Office Action) for disclosing the holes of the transfer gas inlet. Randive discloses a porous plate 74 that lies on top of the source chamber (FIG. 4). The porous plate 74 does not have an elongated shape that longitudinally extends into the source chamber to connect to the apex of the outer inclined surface of the transfer gas distributor. Further, the pores in the porous plate 74 are on the bottom side of the plate. Thus, the pores (the holes of the transfer gas inlet) are not formed at a circumference of the rear end of the transfer gas transfer line.

Ono discloses a transfer gas transfer line 108 that does not longitudinally extend into the source chamber (the V space) to connect to the apex of the outer inclined surface of the transfer gas distributor 2a. Rather, in FIG. 3 and FIG. 4 of Ono, the transfer gas transfer line 108 is not connected to the outer inclined surface of the transfer gas distributor 2a. It should be noted that the surface 16 of Ono cannot be interpreted as the recited “outer inclined surface,” because the surface 16 is not “facing the inner surface of the source chamber,” as recited in Claims 1 and 11. Further, Ono discloses several holes 8 that are formed on the surfaces 15 and 16 of the source chamber (FIG. 3 and FIG. 4). Thus, these holes 8 are not formed at a circumference of the rear end of the transfer gas transfer line, which (the transfer gas transfer line) is not a “surface,” but a “line” that has an “elongated shape.”

Other cited references (Nishikawa, Simhan, Jurgensen and Kirilin) do not teach or suggest these amended features. Thus, the cited references do not teach or suggest amended Claim 1, as well as their respective dependent claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 and its dependent claims are non-obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, and 9 is requested.

B. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiwaka taken in view of Randive and/or Ono and optionally in view of Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin for the reasons discussed above, and taken in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,059,885 issued to Ohashi (“Ohashi”) or U.S. Patent No. 6,444,039 issued to Nguyen (“Nguyen”).

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 and incorporates the limitations thereof. Thus, for at least the reasons mentioned above in regard to Claim 1, Nishiwaka, Randive, Ono, Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin do not teach or suggest each of the elements of Claim 2.

Neither Ohashi nor Nguyen discloses the structure of the transfer gas inlet as recited in Claim 1. For at least the reasons mentioned above, the cited references, separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest each of the elements of amended Claim 1 and its dependent Claim 2. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 2 is respectfully requested.

C. Claims 6, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiwaka taken in view of Randive and/or Ono and optionally taken in view of Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin for the reasons discussed above, and taken in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,882,416 issued to Van Buskirk (“Van Buskirk”).

Claim 6 depends from Claim 1 and incorporates the limitations thereof. Thus, for at least the reasons mentioned above in regard to Claim 1, Nishiwaka, Randive, Ono, Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin do not teach or suggest each of the elements of Claim 6.

Van Buskirk does not disclose the structure of the transfer gas inlet as recited in Claim 1. Thus, the cited references, separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest each of the elements of amended Claim 1 and its dependent Claim 6.

With respect to independent Claim 11, Applicants amend Claim 11 to include the limitation of “the transfer gas inlet including a first plurality of holes formed at a circumference of the rear end of the transfer gas transfer line, the transfer gas transfer line having an elongated shape that longitudinally extends into the source chamber to connect to the apex of the outer inclined surface of the transfer gas distributor.” For analogous reasons mentioned above with respect to Claim 1, the cited references, separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest each of the elements of amended Claim 11. Therefore, Claim 11 and its dependent Claim 12 are non-obvious over the cited references.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 6, 11 and 12 is respectfully requested.

D. Claims 1, 9 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,461,436 issued to Campbell ("Campbell") taken in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,969,539 issued to Gordon ("Gordon") and in further view of Randive and/or Ono and optionally in further view of Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,630,201 issued to Chiang ("Chiang") or PCT Application No. WO 01/40541 to Aro ("Aro").

Independent Claims 1 and 11 are amended to more specifically point out the structure of the transfer gas inlet. For at least the reasons mentioned above, Randive, Ono, Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin, separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest the amended limitations. Similarly, Campbell, Gordon, Chiang and Aro, separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest the amended limitations. Therefore, Claims 1 and 11, as well as their respective dependent claims, namely, Claims 9 and 12-14, are non-obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 9, and 11-14 is respectfully requested.

E. Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell taken in view of Gordon and in further view of Randive and/or Ono and optionally in further view of Simhan, Jurgensen, and/or Kirlin, and in further view of Chiang or Aro for the reasons stated in the previous paragraph rejection, and taken in further view of Van Buskirk.

Claim 10 depends from Claim 1 and incorporates the limitations thereof. Thus, for at least the reasons mentioned above in regard to Claim 1, Campbell, Gordon, Randive, Ono, Simhan, Jurgensen, Kirlin, Chiang and Aro, do not teach or suggest each of the elements of Claim 10.

Van Buskirk also does not teach or suggest the structure of the transfer gas inlet, as recited in Claim 1. Thus, for at least the reasons mentioned above, the cited references do not teach or suggest each of the elements of Claim 1 and its dependent Claim 10. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 10 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

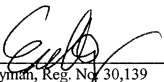
In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: September 17, 2008

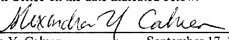
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Alexandra Y. Caluen September 17, 2008